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BOROUGH OF HASLINGDEN

HEALTH
A 12SEP58
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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

1957

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H E A L T H C O M M I T T E E

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
COUNCILLOR W. J. EVERETT J.P. To May 1957
COUNCILLOR W.B. FISHER J.P. From May 1957

ALDERMAN T. BROWN (Chairman)
COUNCILLOR J. W. HOLGATE (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman W. Boyson M.B.E., J.P.	Councillor Mrs. G.M. Warburton C.C.
Councillor W. J. Everett	Councillor A. Bussey
Councillor J. Walsh	Councillor Mrs. E. Margerison
Councillor T. Waller	Councillor B. Molloy
Councillor F. Greenwood*	Councillor A. Snape*
Councillor W. Kirby*	Councillor Mrs. E. K. Newman*

- * Member of the Committee to May, 1957
- * Member of the Committee from May, 1957

S T A F F

Town Clerk
L.M. BURTON

Medical Officer of Health
C. H. T. WADE, M.D., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector
W. DAWSON, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., A.M.Inst.P.C.

Additional Public Health Inspector
D. J. HUNT, M.A.P.H.1., A.R.S.H.

Public Health Clerks

H. Camm
G. C. Laporte (Miss)

OFFICES:

Public Health Office, John Street, Haslingden

June, 1958

To the Mayor and Members of the Haslingden
Borough Council

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1957, on the health and sanitary conditions of the district.

The Registrar General has estimated the population as 14,190, this shows a reduction of 20 from that of 1956. The adjusted* birth rate was 15.9 and the adjusted death rate 14.6 per 1000 of the population. The corresponding rates for England & Wales were 16.1 and 11.5 respectively. There were four deaths of infants under one year of age, giving an infant mortality rate of 19 per 1000 live births compared with the national rate of 23. For the tenth successive year there were no maternal deaths.

Infectious disease, apart from tuberculosis, was mainly confined to measles, of which there were 214 cases. There were five cases of dysentery, three of scarlet fever, twenty seven of whooping cough and sixteen of acute pneumonia. There were no cases of poliomyelitis and, for the eleventh year in succession, there were no cases of diphtheria. Seven cases of food poisoning were notified, six of which occurred in one household. A food poisoning organism was identified, all patients recovered.

Under a scheme arranged by the County Council and commenced in 1955, children in certain age groups were inoculated against poliomyelitis, details are given in the body of the report.

During 1957 ten cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified and one of non-respiratory tuberculosis. This number is considerably less than last year when the notifications were unusually large due to the discovery of new cases by the Mass Radiography Unit which operated in September and October 1956.

Twenty seven houses were represented as unfit for human habitation and dealt with as Clearance Areas. Fifteen other houses were dealt with by demolition procedure, and six by Closing Order.

Fifty new dwellings were erected by the Council, twenty four houses and twenty six flats. At the end of the year there were 357 applicants for Council houses on the register.

I tender my grateful thanks to the Members of the Council and staff for their continued advice and assistance during the year.

I am,

Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. H. T. WADE

Medical Officer of Health.

* Adjusted means corrected to a standard population for the purpose of comparison with other districts.

SECTION ASTATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area in acres	8,195
Population (census 1951)	14,505
Registrar-General's estimate of mid-year population for 1957	14,190
Number of dwelling houses (census 1951)	5,200
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1957, according to Rate Books)	5,580
Rateable Value	£135,116
Sum represented by a penny rate	£525

POPULATION:

The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population for 1957 is 14,190, which is slightly less than the 1956 figure of 14,216. The 1951 census population was 14,505.

LIVE BIRTHS:

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Male	108	4	112
Female	93	6	99
	<u>201</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>211</u>

STILL BIRTHS

Male	4	-	4
Female	2	-	2
	<u>6</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6</u>

Total Registered Births for 1957 ... 217
Total Registered Births for 1956 ... 231

TOTAL REGISTERED DEATHS:

							Male	Female	Total
For 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	110	99	209
For 1956	..	..	..	..	..	..	115	104	219

TOTAL DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR:

For 1957						Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Male	..	..	..	..	..	3	-	3
Female	..	..	..	..	..	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
						4	-	4
For 1956								
Male	..	..	..	..	..	4	-	4
Female	..	..	..	..	..	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
						<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>

DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE:

For 1957						Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Male	..	..	..	..	..	2	-	2
Female	..	..	..	..	..	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
						<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>
For 1956								
Male	..	..	..	..	..	3	-	3
Female	..	..	..	..	..	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
						<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>

There were four deaths of infants under one year of age, three of which occurred in the first four weeks of life.

A list of the ages and sex, and the causes of death of the four infants is appended herewith.

SEX	AGE	CAUSE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH
Male	3 hours	1a. Prematurity & atelectasis	Hospital
Female	2 days	1a. Prematurity	Hospital
Male	9 months	1a. Bronchopneumonia	Hospital
Male	5 days	1a. Cerebral haemorrhage	Hospital

TABLE I

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	Total	Neo-natal		No.	Rate
										No.	Rate		
Year 1957	211	14.9*	209	14.7*	6	28	Nil	Nil	4	19	3	14	0.21
Year 1956	228	16.0	219	15.4	3	13	Nil	Nil	7	31	5	22	0.14
Year 1955	222	15.6	225	15.8	4	18	Nil	Nil	3	14	1	5	0.14
Year 1954	209	14.7	203	14.2	4	19	Nil	Nil	2	10	2	10	0.14
Year 1953	217	15.2	193	13.5	6	27	Nil	Nil	9	41	7	32	0.07
Year 1952	196	13.7	226	15.8	6	30	Nil	Nil	5	26	2	10	0.28
Average 5 years 1952-1956	-	15.0	-	14.9	-	21	-	Nil	-	24	-	16	0.15

* Adjusted - Live Birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.07) = 15.9 per 1,000

Death-rate (comparability factor, 0.99) = 14.6 per 1,000

As in previous years heart disease is again responsible for the greatest number of deaths, 98 being certified as due to this cause.

There were three deaths from lung cancer, all males. In 1956 six deaths, 5 males and 1 female were recorded.

Details of the principal causes of death during 1957 are given in Table II below.

TABLE II

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1957

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Number of Deaths</u>
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	3
Tuberculosis, other forms	-
Syphilitic diseases	1
Diphtheria	-
Whooping Cough	-
Meningococcal Infections	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Measles	-
Other infective and parasitic disease	-
Cancer, malignant disease, all forms .	22
Leukaemia	-
Diabetes	-
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	36
Heart Disease	98
Other circulatory disease	11
Influenza	3
Pneumonia	4
Bronchitis	5
Other diseases of the respiratory system	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .	-
Congenital malformations	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11
Motor vehicle accidents	1
All other accidents	3
Suicide	5
Homicide and operations of war	1

SECTION BGENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Under the National Health Service Act the County Council is responsible for the health services under that Act.

The examination of pathological specimens and milk and water samples is undertaken without charge by the Public Health Laboratory at Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

The following matters are the responsibility of the Borough Council:- The control of infectious disease; provision of suitable water supplies; control of cleansing and disposal of refuse; inspection of all food and food-preparing premises; sampling of foodstuffs (milk, ice-cream, etc.) for bacteriological examination; sanitary accommodation to houses, factories, shops and other premises; inspection of houses with regard to fitness for human habitation; nuisances and defects; rodent control; offensive trades; smoke abatement; and many other matters concerned with environmental health.

Hospital facilities are now under the Regional Board and Management Committees and patients are admitted without regard to local boundaries.

Ambulance, District Nursing, Midwifery and Maternity and Child Welfare Services are provided by the County Council and administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme.

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SECTION CPREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASESINFECTIOUS DISEASE:

Cases of Infectious Disease are treated without charge at the infectious disease hospital and similarly pathological examinations are made without charge at the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

The National Health Service Act requires that copies of all notifications of infectious disease must be forwarded without delay to the County Medical Officer. In practice these notifications are sent to the Divisional Medical Officer so that he may correlate action within the health division and to enable the Divisional Committee to gain a regular knowledge of the incidence of infectious disease throughout their area.

Diphtheria immunisation is now the responsibility of the County Council but close co-operation between the Borough Council and the County Council is maintained particularly for the propaganda purposes. During the year, 168 children under five years of age were immunised and 6 between the ages of 5 and 14.

In addition to the above, 133 children received a reinforcement injection during 1957.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO HAD COMPLETED A COURSE
OF PRIMARY IMMUNISATION AT ANY TIME UP TO 31/12/57

Age at 31/12/57 i.e. born in year	under 1 1957	1-4 1953-1956	5-9 1948-1952	10-14 1943-1947	Total under 15
Number Immunised	70	619	812	739	2240

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO COMPLETED VACCINATION
AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS IN 1957

Born in year	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Total
	51	53	42	38	37	38	55	36	-	-	-	350

TABLE III

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)

RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 1957

"Notifiable" Diseases	Total Cases at all ages	Total Cases Notified Years										Total Deaths
											Age un-known	
		un-der 1	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 64	64 and over			
Scarlet Fever	3	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Measles	214	5	39	61	102	4	1	1	-	1	-	
Whooping Cough	27	-	10	6	10	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Dysentery	5	-	1	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	
Food Poisoning	7*	-	-	-	1	3	-	3	-	-	-	
Acute Pneumonia (Primary & Influenzal)	16	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	6	-	4	
Totals	272	5	50	68	116	7	3	15	6	2	4	

* Family outbreak - six cases due to salmonella heidelberg.
Source not ascertained.

TABLE IV

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE TREATED
IN HOSPITAL DURING 1957

CASES	DISEASE		
	Measles	Whoop- ing Cough	Dysen- tery
In Hospital at beginning of year ..	-	-	-
Admitted during the year	2	1	1
Discharged during the year	1	1	1
Died in Hospital	-	-	-
Remaining in Hospital at end of year	1	-	-

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION:

Table V shows the results of bacteriological examinations made during the year.

TABLE V

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS DURING 1957

Particulars of Examination	Positive	Negative	Total
Diphtheria Throat Swabs	-	5	5
Other Examinations:-			
Salmonella) Dysentery)	23	58	81
Others	-	2	2

TUBERCULOSIS:

Each case of tuberculosis is visited by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor of the Lancashire County Council as soon as possible after receipt of notification. Eighty cases were visited during the year, the number of visits paid being 556. Where desirable, Sanatorium or Hospital treatment is arranged after consultation between the Chest Physician and the Medical Practitioner concerned.

At the beginning of the year there were 86 recorded cases of tuberculosis, 13 cases were added and 13 cases taken off, leaving a total of 86 cases at the end of the year.

The examination of sputum for the presence of tubercle bacilli is carried out at the Blackburn Royal Infirmary. Of 40 such specimens examined during 1957, 2 were positive and 38 negative.

In no instance has there been any wilful neglect or refusal to notify; the notification of tuberculosis in this district being satisfactory.

There does not appear to be any excessive incidence of, or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the area.

It has not been necessary to take action during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under the Public Health Acts relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

Table VI gives particulars of disinfection during the year.

TABLE VI
DISINFECTION DURING 1957

Disease, etc.	Number of Rooms	Number of Articles
Tuberculosis	6	23
Other causes	-	2

(Number of Houses - 4)

Room fumigation for diseases other than tuberculosis and smallpox is no longer recommended. Experience has shown that thorough cleansing with soap, water and disinfectant together with efficient ventilation of the rooms is adequate.

Infection, in the cases of diseases like scarlet fever and diphtheria, is nearly always due to personal contact or to the infection of food and drink.

Table VII gives the age of the cases of tuberculosis notified and deaths from the disease during 1957.

TABLE VII

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1957

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Years								
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-15	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-20	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-65	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
65 and up- wards	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	8	2	-	1	3	-	-	-
	10		1		3		-	

N.B. Primary notifications only included in the above table.

R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Borough of Haslingden

June 1958

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my eleventh Annual Report on the sanitary conditions in the area and the progress recorded in 1957.

The branches of the work which are the most prominent at the present time are housing, food hygiene and clean air. All have been the subject of recent major legislation viz, Housing Act 1957; Food & Drugs Act 1955; Clean Air Act 1956.

Housing must remain a matter of first importance in Haslingden for some years to come, the legacy of the industrial revolution, consisting of substandard houses, overcrowded on space, lacking most modern amenities and now becoming very old, will take many years to be dealt with under Clearance Schemes. Though financial problems at national level have made capital expenditure a matter for the strictest control, the Council has continued to pursue with undiminished energy its policy of Clearance Work. The retention of the Exchequer and Council subsidies on new houses built for the rehousing of people from Clearance Areas has shown that there is a sense of urgency at both national and local level for this important work.

The Scheme of Clearance, approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in 1956, envisaged dealing with 382 unfit houses in 10 years at the rate of 40 houses per year. The first two years have seen 99 houses dealt with and confirmed as unfit for human habitation. With regard to rehousing, two schemes are in progress to provide rehousing facilities for tenants from the houses to be demolished. Both are on Broadway, one scheme is for 30 houses and the other for 40 houses. Nine had been completed at the end of the year and 61 were in progress.

With regard to the 14 houses mentioned in last year's report, the Council have proceeded with the scheme to modernise these dwellings by the provision of hot water, bath, internal water closet and general re-conditioning and modernisation.

The Rent Act 1957 did not bring a very large number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair - it must be concluded, in the absence of any statistical information, that the tenants and landlords generally came to satisfactory agreements on rents and repairs.

Satisfactory progress can be recorded with regard to food hygiene in canteens, cafes, shops and other food premises. Many items of equipment and facilities for maintaining hygiene in the food trade have been provided by traders during the year. The co-operation of owners and employees, so essential in the campaign to ensure a clean and wholesome food supply, has been most encouraging - the human element is without doubt the most important factor in food hygiene.

The Clean Air Act has certainly succeeded in making many people conscious of the problem of smoke pollution and there is much more public support for measures to reduce smoke pollution. As successive parts of the Act become operative (the Act is being brought into force in sections, over a period of time) the effect of this new legislation will become more apparent. In Haslingden, many industrialists are giving serious consideration to schemes of improvement of boiler plants.

The text of the Report gives some detail of many important matters of environmental hygiene, such as water supplies, drainage, sanitary accommodation, cleansing services, food inspection, milk control and other matters not at the present time prominently before the public, but all of importance to the system of public health protection established in this country.

My appreciation and thanks are due to all Members and Officials of the Council for their interest, encouragement and valuable assistance, to an efficient and loyal staff and to all employees of the department for their ungrudging service throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. DAWSON

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION DSANITARY CIRCUMSTANCESWATER:

The water supply of Haslingden is obtained mainly from the Irwell Valley Water Board, with a small number of houses in the Rising Bridge/Stonefold area being supplied by the Accrington & District Water Board, and the remainder - some 300 houses and farms, by springs and wells. Approximately 5,300 houses are supplied by the two Water Boards. The percentage of houses supplied from private sources such as springs and wells is approximately 5.4. In all cases the water supply by the two Water Boards is direct to taps in the consumers houses, neither of the Boards deliver water by stand pipe.

More than half the houses in the Borough are now fitted with baths.

Extensions of 1,066 yards to the existing mains of the Irwell Valley Water Board were laid during the year for the purposes of new housing development, new services to existing property and renewal of old mains.

The water supplied in this area is now treated with lime for plumbo-solvency and the results of such treatment is satisfactory. Lime treatment of the water is applied at the reservoirs.

In 1957 sixty-three bacteriological samples and twelve chemical samples were taken of raw water to determine degree of treatment required. One hundred and sixty eight bacteriological samples and twenty-three chemical samples were taken of water going into supply. These were satisfactory. All water is chlorinated at the source.

DRAINS AND SEWERAGE:

The sewage disposal works are under the control of a Joint Board and deal with the sewage of the three Rossendale Valley Towns, Bacup, Haslingden and Rawtenstall. The plant is situated at the lowest point in the area, and the method of treatment is precipitation and filtration with outfall into the River Irwell.

There are still a number of houses not connected to public sewers, but these are mostly in outlying districts and farms.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION:

The figures below show the closet accommodation of the Borough at the end of the year.

1. Number of pail closets	140
2. Number of waste-water closets	2128
3. Number of fresh-water closets	3225
4. Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens)	9
5. Number of movable ashbins	5471

There are still one hundred and forty pail closets in existence, mostly situated on the outskirts of the town, mainly remote from sewerage and mains water facilities.

Table VIII shows the particulars of conversions during 1957.

TABLE VIII
C O N V E R S I O N S

No. of pail closets to fresh water closets	Nil
No. of waste water closets to fresh water closets	59
No. of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles	Nil

PUBLIC CLEANSING:

The vehicles used for public cleansing are as follows: two freighters used entirely on collection of household refuse. One freighter is used for the collection of nightsoil (in a special tank fitted to the wagon for that purpose) and for the collection of trade refuse, salvage and cover, etc.

Household refuse is collected bi-weekly and nightsoil weekly. All household refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping at the South Shore Tip. Nightsoil is discharged to the sewers by means of a special nightsoil chute.

Refuse disposal has now been carried out at South Shore since 1954, as part of a big scheme in that area. The scheme envisages a very large playing field only a few hundred yards from the centre of Haslingden. It is expected that it will take about 15 years from start to finish.

The refuse collection wagons have dealt with the following materials during the year:-

									<u>Loads</u>
Ashbin refuse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2415
Nightsoil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	150
Salvage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Cover	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90
Trade Refuse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	219
Total									<u>2881</u>

The following shows particulars of the materials dealt with on the South Shore Tip:-

									<u>Loads</u>
Loads tipped by refuse wagons	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2711
Sweepings from Borough Surveyor's Department	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	605
Loads tipped by private traders	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	698
Tip Cover	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90
Total									<u>4104</u>

SALVAGE:

The collection of waste paper salvage continued steadily during 1957 and supply and demand remained fairly constant. During the year an arrangement was made with a neighbouring Authority for scrap tins to be collected from our controlled tip at an agreed price and this has proved quite an economic proposition.

Salvage collected and sold as follows:-

									Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.
Paper, cardboard, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	96	8	1
Rags	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	3
Metals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	8	2
Scrap tins	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	19	2
Total									<u>117</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>0</u>

Gross Value £748 5s. 2d.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Details of the inspection work carried out during 1957, are shown in Table IX.

TABLE IX

INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Housing - No. of houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects - 510.

	No. of inspections made for the purpose	..	..	..	821
Meat and Food Inspections:-					
Food Inspection	..	..	..	..	283
Slaughter-houses	..	..	..	..	133
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	71
Market	..	..	..	..	15
Farms	..	..	..	..	26
Milk Samples	..	..	..	..	49
Ice-cream Premises	..	..	..	..	12
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	15
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	72
Restaurant Kitchens	..	..	..	..	46
Other Food Shops	..	..	..	..	163
Common Lodging Houses	..	..	..	..	2
Infectious disease and disinfection	..	..	..	..	44
Shops Act	..	..	..	..	23
Water Samples	..	..	..	..	5
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	78
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	8
Pet Shops	..	..	..	..	1
Public Cleansing	..	..	..	..	254
Drains and Water Closets	..	..	..	..	205
Hen Pens and Piggeries	..	..	..	..	3
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	186
					<hr/>
					2515
					<hr/>

In Table X are given particulars of:

- (a) Notices served and complied with
- (b) Defects and nuisances found and remedied

TABLE X

(a) NOTICES	Served	Complied with
Formal notices	5	3
Informal notices	109	86
(b) NUISANCES AND DEFECTS	Discovered	Abated
Dwellinghouses:		
Dampness	19	15
Defective ashbins and pails	408	358
Defective waste water closets	106	99
Defective fresh water closets	2	2
Defective drains	72	66
Chimneys	3	3
Roofs	6	4
Eaves-gutters and R.W.F.P. . . .	6	6
Defective plaster	5	4
Others	163	150
Totals ..		
		790
		707

SMOKE ABATEMENT:

18 routine observations of the emission of smoke from mill chimneys were taken during the year.

40 visits and inspections were made in 1957 to deal with smoke abatement problems.

SWIMMING BATHS:

The Corporation Swimming Baths provide one plunge bath, eight slipper baths with facilities for medicinal baths.

The water in the plunge bath is treated by filtration, chlorination and aeration under pressure and is chemically treated by sulphate of alumina and soda. The water is tested daily for pH value, for residual chlorine and for temperature. The pool capacity is approximately 76,000 gallons and there is complete turnover of the water each $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS:

There were no cases of bed bugs to be dealt with during the year.

CAMP SITES:

There have been no licenses issued by the local authority and no areas are used for camping purposes.

SCHOOLS:

The sanitary conditions in all the nine schools in the area are reasonably satisfactory, with the exception of one very small school where the sanitary conveniences are trough type closets. All are supplied with water from the town's mains.

RODENT CONTROL:

In April and November routine treatment of the Town's sewers for the destruction of rodents was carried out. One hundred baits were laid and sixteen complete takes were registered.

The highest incidence of infestation is around the Town Centre.

During the year, 37 private premises were dealt with for rodent infestations, all being of a minor character.

Including sewer treatment work and inspection and treatment of private premises, 78 visits were made in 1957. This figure does not include many routine inspections for the presence of rodents.

SHOPS AND OFFICES:

Twenty-three routine visits and inspections were made during 1957 of shops in the district. Four informal notices were served as a result of certain defects found, and all were complied with. No action was found necessary with regard to offices.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES:

There is still one Common Lodging House in Haslingden, and this is situated in the Town Ward. The premises are visited from time to time and were found to be reasonably satisfactory both as to cleanliness and conduct.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951:

There are no premises in the town where rag flock is manufactured and so far as is known none is being sold or used.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937:

The following table shows inspections made for the purpose of provisions as to health.

TABLE XI

Premises	Number of			No. on Register
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions	
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	6	1	-	43
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	56	9	-	96
Other premises under the Act: (including works of building and engineering construction, but not outworkers premises) .	-	-	-	-
Total	62	10	-	139

The following table gives the number of defects found and remedied during the year.

TABLE XII

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Refer'd by H.M. Inspector	No. of Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors ..	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:				
Insufficient	2	1	2	-
Unsuitable or defective	2	2	2	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	6	5	-	-
Total	10	8	4	-

OUTWORKERS:

At the end of the year there were 16 outworkers on the register. Fourteen are engaged on work classified as textile weaving whilst two are engaged on wearing apparel and small metal work.

SECTION E

H O U S I N G

NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:

						<u>Houses</u>	<u>Flats</u>
(a)	By the local authority ..	..	..	..	..	24	26
(b)	By other local authorities ..	..	..	..	..	-	-
(c)	By other bodies or persons ..	..	..	..	..	-	-

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES:

Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) . . .	510
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Number of inspections made for the above purpose	821
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Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:-

(a)	Number found during year .	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
(b)	Number (or estimated number) at end of year	..	..	..	..	..	363

Number of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, but capable of being rendered fit 43

CLEARANCE AREAS:

Number of dwelling houses demolished during year:-

[illegible]

Number of persons displaced	20
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HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS:

<u>Houses</u>	<u>Persons</u> <u>Displaced</u>
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7	7
8	8
9	9
10	10
11	11
12	12
13	13
14	14
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90	90
91	91
92	92
93	93
94	94
95	95
96	96
97	97
98	98
99	99
100	100

Houses demolished or closed during year:
Housing Act, 1936

[illegible]

Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners
under Section 11 and still in force -

Parts of building closed (Section 12)	-	-
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	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Persons Displaced</u>
Housing Act, 1949:		
Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3 (1) and 3 (2)	-	-
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953:		
Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2)	6	3

<u>REPAIRS DURING YEAR:</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>
Number of houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action by the local auth- ority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	39
Houses in which defects were remedied under the Public Health Acts, after service of formal notice:-	
(a) By owners	4
(b) By local authority in default of owner	-
Houses in which defects were remedied under the Housing Act 1936 (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) after service of formal notice:	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil
Housing Repairs and Rents Acts 1954:	
Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5)	Nil

UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT 1954):

Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommo- dation and approved for grant under Section 7	Nil
Number of separate dwellings contained in above	Nil
Number of houses licensed for temporary accommodation (Section 6)	Nil

HOUSING ACT 1949 - IMPROVEMENT GRANTS, ETC.

Action during year	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling houses affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority	47	47
(b) Approved by Local Authority	52	52
(c) Work completed	63	63
(d) Submitted by Local Authority to Ministry ..	Nil	Nil
(e) Finally approved by Ministry	Nil	Nil
(f) Work completed	2	8
(g) Additional separate dwellings included in (c) and (f) above	None	

RENT ACT 1957:

Only a limited use was made by tenants of the provisions with regard to Certificates of disrepair under this Act.

Four applications were received - in two instances work was completed before a Certificate could be authorised. In one case the application was withdrawn on agreement between tenant and landlord, and one Certificate of Disrepair was issued.

HOUSING CONDITIONS - GENERAL:

The Clearance Scheme which was approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in January, 1956 is being steadily pursued. The target was 382 houses to be dealt with in 10 years at the rate of 40 houses per annum. In 1956, 51 houses were dealt with and in 1957, 48 houses. There is a considerable time lag from the first inspections in a Clearance Area to the final stages in the work - that of rehousing the tenants and demolishing the houses. This is quite normal, and indeed is necessary, so that all the legal processes can have proper consideration and, of course, new houses have to be built. The Council have in hand a scheme of 30 houses and a further 40 houses have been commenced. Nine of the 70 houses were completed and occupied in 1957 whilst 61 were under construction.

With regard to the scheme of reconditioning 14 older houses, which was under consideration last year, the Council has decided to proceed with the work and, at the end of the year, considerable progress has been made. In addition to the 14 houses, a dwelling at the end of the block is being converted into a shop-dwelling and modernised in a similar manner to the other houses. Each house will have hot water, bath, internal water closet and will generally be brought up to a modern standard.

At the end of the year there were 357 applicants on the register for Council Houses. This figure is slightly less than last year (378) but still remains well over the 300 mark despite new house construction and quite a number of re-lets.

The position with regard to the construction of new Corporation houses at the end of the year was as follows:-

Scheme No. 19 - 21 in construction at Broadway

Scheme No. 20 - 40 in construction at Broadway

SECTION F

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK:

The duties of the local authority with regard to milk supply include the important work of supervising distribution, responsibility for water supply, sewage disposal and drainage at farms and the power to deal with prevention of infection from milk. Actual supervision of the production of milk on the farm is the duty of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Set out below are details of licences issued in the Borough and the samples taken.

At December 31st there were 46 Distributors of Milk on the register. These are in addition to farmers who retail their own milk.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS - (RAW MILK) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK):

The following hold licences under the Special Designations Regulations at the end of December:-

- 55 Dealers' Licences for Sterilised Milk
- 5 Dealers' Licences for T.T. Milk
- 5 Dealers' Licences for Pasteurised Milk
- 1 Supplementary Licence for T.T. Milk
- 1 Supplementary Licence for Pasteurised Milk

EXAMINATION OF MILK SUPPLIES:

Milk samples are submitted for examination for tubercle bacilli; also for cleanliness as shown by the time taken to decolourise Methylene Blue. All samples examined for tubercle bacilli were found to be free from such infection. Of the 45 samples subjected to the Methylene Blue test 44 were satisfactory and 1 was classified as unsatisfactory. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food were informed of the latter, for action by their officers. Four samples of pasteurised milk were submitted and these satisfied the Phosphatase and Methylene Blue tests. All producers of milk, where samples were taken by this Department, were notified by letter of the results of the tests.

Particulars of the bacteriological and biological examination during 1957 are given in Table XIII.

TABLE XIII

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK DURING 1957

Particulars of Examination	No. of Samples				
	Total	Neg- ative	Posi- tive	Satis- factory	Not Satis- factory
Biological for Tuberculosis .	45	45	-	-	-
Methylene Blue	45	-	-	44	1
Phosphatase	4	-	-	4	-

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOOD:

Frequent inspections are made at retailers shops (including butchers' shops) where foodstuffs are stored, exposed for sale, or in course of preparation for sale.

The number of visits paid for the purpose of meat and food inspection during the year was 649. Regular slaughtering is carried out at the one licensed slaughterhouse in the town. The carcass of each animal slaughtered is inspected at time of slaughter or within a short time following slaughter.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED WITHIN THE DISTRICT:

	Calves	Cattle exc. cows	Cows	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	3	155	-	1078	16
Number inspected	3	155	-	1078	16
All diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	42	-	5	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	-	27%	-	.5%	-
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	5	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affec- ted with Tuberculosis	-	3.2%	-	-	-

No. of carcasses found to be affected with cysticercus bovis - Nil

FOOD POISONING:

There were seven notified cases of Food Poisoning during the year.

FOOD CONDEMNED:

The following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption in 1957, and were dealt with as directed by statute.

Weight of Meat and Offal	532 lbs.
Tinned Meat	343 lbs.
Tinned Fruit	108 lbs.
Tinned Vegetables	30 lbs.
Tinned Milk	7 lbs.
Tinned Fish	14 lbs.
Tinned Lard	70 lbs.
Tinned Syrup	70 lbs.
Tinned Meat and Onions	100 lbs.
Total ..	<u>1274 lbs.</u>

FOOD PREMISES - FOOD HYGIENE:

The food Hygiene Regulations which came into operation in January, 1956 have been in force now for two years and one can evaluate to some extent the impact these have made in the preparation, storage and sale of foodstuffs. Many of the provisions are already almost universally applied, such as washing facilities; hot water at all food premises; protection and clean handling of foodstuffs. The most important thing is that the standards observed are continually improving.

The following table gives some indication of the type and number of food premises in the district.

<u>TYPE OF BUSINESS</u>	<u>No.</u>
Grocers and general provision dealers	91
Greengrocers; Fruiterers; Fishmongers	15
Butchers shops	20
Bakers and Confectioners	32
Fried Fish shops	17
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery etc. ..	18
Canteens, Restaurants, Cafes and similar catering establishments	20
Others	8
Total	<u>221</u>

Some extent of the work involved can be gauged from the inspection figures; 363 inspections being made including 46 at canteens, 72 at bakers and confectioners, 71 at butchers shops and 107 at grocers establishments.

Many improvements have been made with regard to the equipment and the structure of shops, and a considerable number of similar schemes are in hand at the end of the year.

BAKEHOUSES:

The number of bakehouses on the register at the end of 1957 was 30; many of these are small businesses.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD: CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION:

The administration of Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and regulations governing the adulteration of food, are under the control of the Lancashire County Council and their officers take samples in the district. The bacteriological examination of foodstuffs is dealt with by the Borough Council and samples are submitted for such examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

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